



**CONTRACTORS STATE LICENSE BOARD
LICENSE EXAMINATION STUDY GUIDE**



SWIMMING POOL (C-53)

Content of the Examination

The Swimming Pool (C-53) Examination is divided into nine major sections:

- 1. Planning and Estimating (30%)**
 - Planning
 - Estimating
- 2. Swimming Pool/Spa Shell Construction (22%)**
 - Permitting
 - Site preparation and excavation
 - Steel placement and bonding
 - Concrete placement and curing
- 3. Pool/Spa Systems Installation (10%)**
 - Plumbing
 - Electrical
 - Equipment installation
 - Solar heating
- 4. Extra Features for Pools/Spas (3%)**
 - Pool covers
 - Water features
 - Pool/spa accessories
- 5. Pool/Spa Shell Finishing (10%)**
 - Interior finish and start up
 - Tile and coping
 - Decking
- 6. Commercial Swimming pools/Spas (5%)**
- 7. Fiberglass/Metal and Vinyl-lined Swimming Pool/Spa Installation (2%)**
 - Site preparation
 - Pool/spa installation
 - Plumbing installation

8. Pool/Spa Repair, Renovations, and Maintenance (12%)

- Water loss and discoloration
- Structural
- Equipment and systems

9. Safety (6%)

- Swimming pool/spa safety
- Job site safety

Percentages are approximate

Test Site Policy

This is a closed-book examination. No reference materials may be used during the examination. All materials brought to the examination site must be left in an unmonitored area at your own risk.

Test Strategy

This is a multiple-choice examination with four choices per question. Some questions require mathematical computation. Examination questions are written to provide only one BEST answer and are NOT written as trick questions.

There is no penalty for guessing. If you are unsure about a particular question, it is better to try to answer the question than to leave the question blank.

Plenty of time is provided to answer all examination questions, so be sure to read each question and its four choices completely and carefully before selecting the BEST possible answer to the question.

Sample Questions

Below are three typical examination questions.
The correct answer is marked with "➡."

1. When establishing the elevation of a swimming pool bond beam on a residential pool, which of the following must be considered?
 - a. Bond beam width and coping thickness
 - b. Bond beam width and pool depth
 - ➡ c. Deck drainage and coping thickness
 - d. Deck drainage and pool depth
2. What soil is ideal for a pool site?
 - a. Bentonite
 - b. Shale
 - c. Clay soil
 - ➡ d. Sandy loam
3. Which of the following pipes is approved for underground gas lines?
 - a. SCH 40 CPVC pipe
 - ➡ b. Polyethylene pipe
 - c. Black iron pipe
 - d. Galvanized pipe

All questions are written and reviewed by licensed contractors who are actively working in the field

Resources

*Publisher information for reference books and code is provided below. Other sources for reference books may be found online. **California code books can be viewed online: www.bsc.ca.gov***

2013 California Building Code. California Code of Regulations, Title 24. International Code Council.

PHONE: (800) 786-4452

INTERNET: www.iccsafe.org

2013 California Electrical Code. California Code of Regulations, Title 24.

BNI Publications, Inc.

PHONE: (888) 264-2665

INTERNET: www.bni-books.com

2013 California Plumbing Code.

California Code of Regulations, Title 24.

International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO).

PHONE: (800) 854-2766

INTERNET: www.iapmo.org

Residential Inground Swimming Pools and Permanently Installed Residential Spas.

National Spa & Pool Institute.

PHONE: (703) 838-0083

INTERNET: www.apsp.org

Shotcrete for the Craftsman. American Concrete Institute.

PHONE: (248) 848-3700

INTERNET: www.concrete.org

State of California General Industry & Electrical Safety Orders (Cal/OSHA) and State of California Construction Safety Orders (Cal/OSHA). 2015. California Code of Regulations, Title 8. Mancomm.

PHONE: (877) 626-2666

INTERNET: www.mancomm.com

Uniform Swimming Pool, Spa and Hot Tub Code. International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials.

PHONE: (909) 472-4208

INTERNET: www.iapmomembership.org

Publisher information is current as of 6/15